(b) whether Government proposes to add more backward Muslims for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) to(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Share capital of NMDFC

†2719. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given approval to increase the share capital of National Minority Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the areas where NMDFC would utilize this amount for the benefit of minorities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government of India has approved enhancement of authorized share capital of National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) from Rs. 850 Crores to Rs. 1000 Crores, in September 2009. Rs. 125 crores has been released during the current year to NMDFC towards central share capital.

(c) NMDFC utilizes the share capital contribution for extending loans to persons belonging to minorities, living below double the poverty line, for undertaking self employment and income generating activities. The schemes of NMDFC are being implemented through State Channelising Agencies (SCAs) spread across States & UTs and through a network of NGOs. NMDFC also provides loans to individuals through its State Channelising Agencies.

Besides, it provides micro credit to the poorest of poor among the minorities, organized into Self Help Groups (SHGs) through established NGOs.

It also extends Educational Loan through its State Channelising Agencies for pursuing technical and professional courses.

Investment from abroad

2720. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is preparing any plan to attract investment from abroad by giving incentives in the Eleventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the present status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) The Government has put in place a conducive policy regime to attract foreign investment in renewable energy sector. 100% Foreign Direct Investment is allowed in Renewable Energy sector and structures have been put in place to facilitate power trading, open access etc. The Government has also approved a Generation Based Incentive scheme for wind power projects for investors, specially foreign, who cannot avail of the benefit of accelerated depreciation available to domestic investors. Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission has also been approved recently which is also expected to provide ample opportunities to foreign companies to set up advanced manufacturing facilities in solar energy sector as well as to investors for large-scale capital investment in solar power generation.

Non-conventional energy sources in Goa

2721. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goa Government has sent any proposal regarding the use of non-conventional energy sources in the State;

(b) if so, the nature of the proposal, cost involved and the decision taken, if any, by Government in this regard;

(c) whether any scheme regarding non-conventional energy sources is in force in the State; and

(d) if so, the details of the financial assistance given, its utilization and the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY (DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Details of various proposals submitted by the Goa Energy Development Agency (GEDA) for sanction of eligible financial assistance under various renewable energy programmes of the Ministry during the current financial year (2009-10) along with decision taken/status thereof are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) All schemes/programmes of the Ministry for promotion of various renewable energy sources are applicable throughout the country, including the State of Goa.

(d) Central financial assistance totaling Rs.2.53 crore under various renewable energy schemes/programmes has been provided to Goa Energy Development Agency during the 11th Plan period upto 30.11.2009. Details of achievements reported by the Agency are given in Statement-II.